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Consular Cases and Opinions from the decisions of the English and American Courts and the Opinions of the Attorneys General. By Ellery C. Stowell, *Docteur en droit* (Paris), Graduate of the *Ecole Libre des Sciences Politiques,* Secretary of the College of the Political Sciences. Washington: John Byrne & Co. 1909. pp. xxxvi, 811.

In compiling this book Doctor Stowell has not only rendered a great service to the many young men who are pursuing courses of study in our colleges and universities with a view of entering upon a career in the consular service recently made possible by the application of civil service principles to appointments in that branch of the public service, but he has also provided a most useful reference book for consuls, lawyers and others who may be called upon to deal with problems connected with the exercise of consular functions. Any one who has had to refer to the decisions of the American courts upon consular questions can not but feel grateful to Doctor Stowell for making a laborious task comparatively easy.

Perhaps the best way to describe the book would be to follow the order of its arrangement. There are a list of abbreviations, alphabetical and chronological lists of cases, tables of judges and of the opinions of the Attorneys General, usually found in books of this character. The regulations of the Institute of International Law relating to consular immunities are given an appropriate place in the first part of the volume.

The American and British cases relating to consuls with the appropriate references to dates and the volumes in which reports of the cases may be found occupy the next 450 pages of the book.

The cases are followed by the opinions of the Attorneys General relating to consuls, chronologically arranged and supplied with very satisfactory synopses which aid materially in quickly ascertaining the purport of any opinion.

In addition, there have been included a useful subject analysis of treaties in relation to consuls to which the United States is a party, prepared by Mr. Woislav Petrovitch, formerly American Vice-Consul at Belgrade; an index to the Federal Statutes relating to consuls prepared by Messrs. Scott and Beaman, and a table of cases cited.

Besides a comprehensive index to the volume, Doctor Stowell has added a compendium, the purpose of which is to arrange under subject headings references to the pertinent cases and opinions somewhat in the manner of an index-digest. The compendium is one of the most practical and useful features of the book and enables one to see at a glance

precisely what cases the courts have dealt with upon any branch of the general subject.

In this connection one can not but regret that the compendium should have been limited to a brief statement of the point involved in each case to which reference is made. It would seem that the book would have been vastly improved if all the cases and opinions in their entirety had been arranged chronologically under the appropriate subject headings so that one endeavoring to find the law upon any branch of the subject might turn to the proper head and find thereunder all that had been said upon the point by the American and British courts and by the Attorneys General. The arrangement suggested would have been invaluable to the busy consul or professional man using the book occasionally to whom convenience is of prime importance.

It is also believed that the volume would have been much more useful had the author seen fit to supply in all cases a succinct statement of the facts, and a synopsis of the opinion of the court as well as the full opinion instead of limiting himself in a majority of instances to a brief statement of the holding of the court.

The volume is not designed to cover a much broader field than that covered by Doctor Stowell's first book on "Le Consul" and therefore does not include cases and opinions referring to the exercise of extra-territorial jurisdiction by consular officers. As the author intimates, this subject is really one deserving separate treatment and furthermore is likely to become less important as time goes on. Already within ten years this special jurisdiction has been abolished in Japan, Zanzibar, Samoa and Siam, and there are indications that the time may not be far distant when a similar change may take place in Turkey.

On the whole the book is creditable piece of work and one that can not but prove of great value to consuls as well as to students of consular affairs and to lawyers, who have hitherto felt the need of a compilation in convenient form of the information which this volume contains.

WILBUR J. CARR.

Letters to "The Times" upon War and Neutrality (1881–1909), with some Commentary. By Thomas Erskine Holland Longmans, Green, and Co., 39 Paternoster Row, London: 1909. pp. xi, 166.

During the Civil War a series of letters, over the signature of Historicus, dealing with questions of belligerency, appeared in the *London Times*. They were written by the late Sir William Vernon-Harcourt while at the bar, who, yielding to the judgment of competent authorities,